

- The President signed DMA2000 (Public Law 106-390) on October 30, 2000.
- The new legislation reinforces the importance of pre-disaster mitigation planning.
- The Act establishes a pre-disaster hazard mitigation program and establishes new requirements for the national post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), requiring an approved mitigation plan in order to receive assistance under the Stafford Act for disasters declared after November 1, 2004.
- Section 322 of the Act specifically addresses mitigation planning at the state and local levels, and FEMA has developed a series of Mitigation Planning “How-To Guides” to assist.
- The Act identifies new requirements that allow HMGP funds to be used for planning activities, and increases the amount of HMGP funds available to states that have developed a comprehensive, enhanced mitigation plan prior to a disaster (from 15% to 20%).
- States, Tribes (applying directly to FEMA), must have an approved mitigation plan in place prior to receiving post-disaster HMGP funds, or Public Assistance funding under the recovery categories.
- Communities and Tribes (applying through a State) must have an approved mitigation plan in place prior to receiving HMGP funds. Mitigation plans must demonstrate that the proposed mitigation measures are based on a sound planning process that accounts for the risk to -- and the capabilities of the individual communities
- State and Tribal governments have certain responsibilities for implementing Section 322, including:
 - Preparing and submitting a standard or enhanced state/tribal mitigation plan;
 - Reviewing and updating the state/tribal mitigation plan every three years;
 - Providing technical assistance and training to local governments to assist them in applying for HMGP grants and in developing local mitigation plans; and
 - Reviewing and approving local plans if the state is designated a managing state and has an approved enhanced plan.
- DMA 2000 is intended to facilitate cooperation between state and local authorities, and the community-at-large, prompting all to work together. It encourages and rewards local and state pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance.
- To implement the new DMA 2000 requirements, FEMA prepared an Interim Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2002, at 44 CFR Parts 201 and 206, which establishes planning and funding criteria for states, tribes and local communities.
- A deadline for approved Mitigation Plans was originally set for November 1, 2003, in order to continue to receive FEMA grant assistance. This deadline has been extended until November 1, 2004 (Federal Register, October 1, 2002) Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 Fact Sheet